

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the final Office Action mailed on June 6, 2007. Claims 1-3, 5, and 6 are pending. Claim 1 has been amended. In view of the foregoing amendments, as well as the following remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in complete condition for allowance and request reconsideration of the application in this regard.

Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1, 2, and 6 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1 and 2 of Patent No. 6,983,978. Applicants' originally submitted Terminal Disclaimer contained a defect. Applicants submitted a substitute Terminal Disclaimer on June 14, 2007, as permitted under MPEP § 1490(C), that is believed effective to overcome this rejection. Applicants request that the rejection be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 USC § 102

Claims 1-3, 5, and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,892,496 to Youngs et al. (hereinafter *Youngs*). Claim 1 is the sole remaining independent claim subject to this rejection. The Examiner contends that *Youngs* shows or teaches all the features of the rejected claims. Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's contention.

In contrast to Applicants' independent claim 1, as amended, *Youngs* fails to disclose "a plurality of fasteners securing said door component to said carrier plate" and "said fasteners further securing said door component to said door frame" with the additional recitation that the fasteners are "configured to initially support the door component on said carrier plate before said carrier plate is positioned between said door frame and said door trim panel in the assembly." Instead, *Youngs* discloses push-fit fasteners (42) that secure the door components (30, 32) with the carrier plate (16). See column 3, lines 53-55. As apparent in Fig. 1 of *Youngs*, the push-fit fasteners (42) are received in blind openings in the door components (30, 32), which do not penetrate through the door components (30, 32). Consequently, although the push-fit fasteners (42) arguably support the door components (30, 32) on the carrier plate (16) before assembly, *Youngs* fails to disclose that the push-fit fasteners (42) secure the door components (30, 32) with the door frame (12) in the assembly.

Youngs also discloses fasteners (58) that secure the carrier plate (16) with the door frame (12) in the assembly. See column 4, lines 35-39. However, the fasteners (58) do not support the

door components (30, 32) on the carrier plate (16) either before or after assembly. *Youngs* also discloses fasteners (64) that secure the door components (30, 32) with the door frame (12). *See* column 4, lines 43-46. However, the fasteners (64) do not support the door components (30, 32) on the carrier plate (16) before assembly. Hence, no single plurality of fasteners disclosed in *Youngs* satisfies all of the requirements set forth in Applicants' claim 1.

In order for a reference to anticipate a claimed invention, the reference must teach each and every element in the precise arrangement set forth in the claim. MPEP § 2131. If the reference fails to teach even one of the claimed features, the reference does not and cannot anticipate the claimed invention. Because of the deficiency of *Youngs* identified hereinabove, *Youngs* fails to anticipate claim 1. For at least that reason, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

Because claims 2, 3, 5, and 6 depend from independent claim 1, Applicants submit that these claims are also patentable. Furthermore, claims 2, 3, 5, and 6 each recite a unique combination of elements not disclosed or suggested by *Youngs*.

Conclusion

Applicants have made a bona fide effort to respond to each and every requirement set forth in the Office Action. In view of the foregoing remarks, this application is submitted to be in complete condition for allowance and, accordingly, a timely notice of allowance to this effect is earnestly solicited. If there is any additional matter that may be resolved by telephone or fax, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to expedite issuance of this application.

Applicants do not believe that any fees are due in connection with this submission. However, if such petition is due or any fees are necessary, the Commissioner may consider this to be a request for such and charge any necessary fees to Deposit Account No. 23-3000.

Respectfully submitted,
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